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CIA Gearing Up For Operations With Foreigners

The Central Intelligence Agency is quietly returning to its old ways of stirring up secret mischief abroad. But because its own covert capabilities have been dismantled, the CIA is using foreign forces, some of them of dubious reliability, to carry out its clandestine activity.

Of course, the CIA is keeping these plans hush-hush. But intelligence reports indicate that the intended victims usually are the first to learn about covert activities directed against them.

.The CIA may have acknowledged the real reason for concealing its change of tactics from the American people. A top-secret planning document warns that openness "could panic an American public which has not yet recovered from the Vietnam morning-after syndrome."

CIA strategists are actively planning undercover operations in cooperation with such countries as Egypt, Israel, Turkey, Pakistan, Guatemala, South Africa, South Korea and the People's Republic of China.

Some of these projects are already in the works. Through Egypt, for example, the CIA is funneling covert support to the rebels in Afghanistan and is preparing covert operations against Libya. Both Egypt and Turkey will be used to mount operations against Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran.

Through China, the CIA is even supporting the jungle forces of the murderous Pol Pot in Cambodia.

In Guatemala, the CIA has arranged for secret training in the finer points of assassination. This has been provided through Cuban emigre groups, with the CIA keeping a low profile.

The Guatemalan assassins intend to use their new skills against Cuban "revolutionary agents," theoretically, at least. But unfortunately, the Guatemalan government takes a broad view of who should be classified as a "revolutionary agent."

This could be almost anyone who opposes the ruling regime. The assassination program is directed, according to intelligence sources, out of an office in the presidential palace. The victims have included health workers who merely agitated against the distribution of baby food formula that, in some places, is mixed with contaminated water.

The CIA is also giving Cuban emigres commando training again, apparently unmindful of the lessons of the Bay of Pigs. Plans have been discussed to parachute them into Cuba and to use them to harass Cuban economic missions and intelligence fronts throughout Latin America. They will also open a

Radio Free Cuba, with U.S. technical and financial assistance.

In the Middle East, the CIA is working with Israel to disrupt the radical elements of the Palestine Liberation Organization. But the Israelis have used the same operations to destabilize Saudi Arabia, which happens to be a staunch American friend and oil supplier.